

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN COMMEMORATION OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN NICHOLSON, PENNSYLVANIA

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to help commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the establishment of the First Presbyterian Church in Nicholson, Pennsylvania. The church is a historic landmark within my congressional district, and provides my constituents with a place to come together and worship.

Founded in April of 1865 by Reverend Lyman Richardson, the church remains the tallest structure in Nicholson. This house of worship, which rises to a height of 60 feet and is adorned with 10 beautiful stained-glass windows, serves as a magnificent symbol reminding onlookers of the great sense of pride and community the town's residents share.

First Presbyterian is comprised of nine board members who oversee a vibrant and active congregation. Thanks to an enthusiastic and committed staff of teachers, the youth of the church are able to enjoy a Sunday school program that runs 12 months of the year. Additionally, in 1879, a women's Missionary Society was organized in order to aid the church in its everyday spiritual and monetary needs. The group survives over 100 years later, and is referred to today as the "Presbyterian Women."

Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to honor the First Presbyterian Church of Nicholson, Pennsylvania as it celebrates its 150th anniversary, and I commend its congregation, both past and present, for their tireless efforts to preserve its longstanding legacy.

KATHERINE WHISENANT

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Katherine Whisenant for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Katherine Whisenant is a 12th grader at Standley Lake High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Katherine Whisenant is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Katherine Whisenant for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$18,151,997,679,396.05. We've added \$7,525,120,630,482.97 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$7.5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

MEDICAL LABORATORY PROFESSIONALS RECOGNITION

HON. AUSTIN SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize all of the medical laboratory professionals in Georgia. Laboratory professionals are vital to the healthcare team and instrumental in the decision making of clinicians. These men and women dedicate themselves to their work in hospital laboratories, research institutions, public health departments, and university health centers. Medical laboratory professionals are frontline responders, performing and interpreting more than 10 billion tests annually to provide physicians with critical lab results.

Each year, we acknowledge laboratory professionals during National Medical Laboratory Professionals Week. This year's theme, Laboratory Professionals Get Results, speaks to the "can do" attitude of those in the field as well as the critical role they play in the continuum of healthcare delivery. Thank you to all the hardworking medical laboratory professionals in the nation, state of Georgia, and 8th Congressional District.

MACKAELA RIEDEL

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Mackaela

Riedel for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Mackaela Riedel is a 7th grader at Drake Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Mackaela Riedel is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Mackaela Riedel for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL JOB CORPS' 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th Anniversary of the National Job Corps.

Job Corps was established by the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964. The organization's mission is to help young people gain the credentials and employment skills needed to enter the workforce and build successful careers. Job Corps provides career preparatory training to high school dropouts, homeless young adults, and students with learning disabilities, enabling them to become productive and financially independent members of society. Job Corps provides over 50,000 at-risk youth with invaluable job training and life skills each year.

The Cassadaga Job Corps Center, located in Chautauqua County, New York, has had an immensely positive impact on lives and families in my congressional district. The Center enrolls over 300 local youths every year, providing them with the resources and opportunities necessary to achieve success, both now and in the future. These programs have enabled thousands of young adults to enter the workforce and begin careers in construction, healthcare, security, and various vocational industries.

Our local communities have greatly benefited from the services provided by the hardworking staff of the Cassadaga Job Corps Center. The staff provides a "hand up" to young adults in need, by mentoring, encouraging, and supporting the program participants as they work to better themselves. The staff works with the participants as they establish solid foundations upon which to build their careers, which directly benefits the participants and our communities.

Mr. Speaker, it is my sincere pleasure to congratulate the National Job Corps on fifty

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

years of excellent service to students and young adults across the country. I salute Job Corps on a job well-done, and extend my best wishes for continued success in the future.

44TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GAY
AND LESBIAN ACTIVISTS ALLI-
ANCE OF WASHINGTON, DC
(GLAA)

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in celebrating the 44th anniversary of the Gay and Lesbian Activists Alliance of Washington, DC (GLAA), a much-valued human rights organization that has long been a local leader in the struggle for equal rights for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) community.

Since its founding, in April 1971, GLAA has been a respected and tireless advocate for full and equal rights for the District of Columbia, and has been at the forefront of efforts to strengthen enforcement of the landmark D.C. Human Rights Act of 1977. One of GLAA's most significant achievements, on which it worked with coalition partners, D.C. elected officials, and District residents, was enactment of the District of Columbia Religious Freedom and Civil Marriage Equality Amendment Act, which permits same-sex couples to marry in the District.

GLAA has also stoutly defended the District's comprehensive human rights law; has been an outspoken advocate for LGBT youth and seniors; has stood up for the rights of LGBT consumers; has upheld the rights of transgender people, including equal treatment by police and access to culturally competent healthcare; and has built and nurtured coalitions with other constituencies to advance these causes and defend the District's autonomy.

At GLAA's 44th anniversary reception on April 23, 2015, the recipients of its 2015 Distinguished Service Awards will be recognized, including:

Alexandra Andrea Beninda serves as a member of the D.C. Commission on Human Rights. She is a dedicated transgender advocate and community volunteer. She has also served as a board member for Equality Virginia, Treasurer of the Virginia Partisans Gay and Lesbian Democratic Club, Treasurer of the Gertrude Stein Democratic Club, and a board member for the DC Center for the LGBT Community. She has represented the Stein Club on the D.C. Democratic State Committee. She is an active member and Assistant Treasurer at All Souls Unitarian Church.

Chuck Hicks is a longtime specialist in Black history and strong supporter of HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment. He is founder and chair of the DC Black History Celebration Committee, and collaborated with the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities in last year's multimedia production on Bayard Rustin and James Baldwin, and this year's production on Ruby Dee and Ossie Davis. He is founder and chair of Bread for the Soul. He has also served on the board of the Whitman-Walker Clinic. He led creation of a local host com-

mittee for the dedication of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial, and served on the D.C. Mayor's Committee on the 50th Anniversary of the 1963 March on Washington. He currently serves on the Commission on Aging, D.C. Commission on African-American Men and Boys, Commission on African-American Affairs, and the MLK Holiday Commission.

Anne Phelps is a former D.C. Council Committee Director for the Committee on the Judiciary and Public Safety, serving under then-chairman Tommy Wells. Before that, she was Committee Director for the Committee on Libraries, Parks, Recreation, and Planning, and General Counsel for the Committee on Transportation and Public Works. During her tenure on the Judiciary and Public Safety Committee, the following bills supported by GLAA were passed: the Marriage Officiant Amendment Act of 2013; JaParker Deoni Jones Birth Certificate Equality Amendment Act of 2013; Marriage License Issuance Amendment Act of 2013; Civil Marriage Dissolution Equality Clarification Amendment Act of 2014; Repeal of Prostitution Free Zones Amendment Act of 2014; and Human Rights Amendment Act of 2014. During her previous committee post, she shepherded the Youth Bullying Prevention Act of 2012. She continues to work on LGBT issues as Legislative Director for Ward 6 Councilmember Charles Allen.

I ask the House to join me in honoring the recipients of GLAA's 2015 Distinguished Service Award and celebrating GLAA's 44 years of contributions to the LGBT community in the District of Columbia.

KELLAN LANGFIELD

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Kellan Langfield for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Kellan Langfield is a 10th grader at Standley Lake High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Kellan Langfield is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Kellan Langfield for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

IN HONOR OF MRS. MAGGIE L.
CRIMES

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a woman of grace, class and

dignity, Mrs. Maggie Crimes. Sadly, Mrs. Crimes passed away on April 17, 2015. Her funeral service was held on April 19, 2015, at New Hope Baptist Church in Preston, Georgia.

Mrs. Crimes was born in Webster County, Georgia on September 1, 1927, to the union of the late Mr. Willie Muff and the late Mrs. Evelyn Hawkins Muff Colbert Holley.

She was educated in the Webster County School System. At an early age, she joined Shiloh Baptist Church in Preston, Georgia. In later years, she was a dedicated member of New Hope Baptist Church, also in Preston. In 1944, she married Mr. Jimmie Lee Crimes, Sr. This union produced ten children.

Following in the footsteps of the great African American woman entrepreneur, Madame C.J. Walker, she pursued her entrepreneurial dreams and opened Mom's Kitchen in Preston in 1981. At the request of former President Jimmy Carter, she opened a second Mom's Kitchen location in Plains, Georgia in 2000.

She made Mom's Kitchen a family affair, as many of her children and other relatives are employed in the business. Mom's is a place where you can get a good meal, get good customer service, and talk about the burning issues of the day. Mother Crimes made Mom's Kitchen a place that is welcoming to all people from many diverse backgrounds. She was a dear friend to me and my wife, Vivian. She gave me a platform and venue at Mom's Kitchen that I used on many occasions to interact with constituents.

Mother Crimes was a great woman who treated all people with respect. She loved her God. She was honest, hardworking, and always told you the truth. She instilled these values in all of her children. Mom truly believed in the words of George Washington Carver, when he said, "How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving and tolerant of the weak and the strong. Because someday in life you will have been all of these."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring the life and legacy of Mrs. Maggie Crimes and in extending condolences on behalf of my wife and the more than 730,000 people of the Second Congressional District. I know that her ten children, forty-three grandchildren, sixty-two great grandchildren, and four great great grandchildren will all miss her presence and wise counsel. But, I know that they will be more determined than ever to carry out her legacy. Heaven now has the "best cook" around and Mom now serves in the "greatest kitchen" of all.

RECOGNIZING ST. CLOUD HONOR
FLIGHT

HON. TOM EMMER

OF MINNESOTA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. EMMER of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the World War II veterans from St. Cloud, Minnesota, as they visit our nation's capital as part of the Honor Flight program.

This afternoon I had the honor of meeting the St. Cloud Honor Flight as they visited the World War II Memorial down on the National Mall. The remaining men and women of the

Greatest Generation are a reminder to all of us of the importance of duty, patriotism, and sacrifice. No word or action will ever repay what these men and women have done for our country, but I hope that today's journey with the Honor Flight serves as a small token of our immeasurable gratitude for their service to this great nation.

I ask that this body join me in thanking our veterans for their service, and the Honor Flight program for making days like today possible for veterans across the country.

MADDIE MIERA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Maddie Miera for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Maddie Miera is an 8th grader at Mandalay Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Maddie Miera is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Maddie Miera for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

IN RECOGNITION OF ASIAN PACIFIC STATE EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Asian Pacific State Employees Association (APSEA) and the distinguished Sacramento leaders who are being honored at their 16th annual scholarship gala. I ask all my colleagues to join me in recognizing APSEA, the students they serve, and the fine Sacramentans they are honoring.

APSEA and the APSEA Foundation have played a vital role in the education and professional development of countless state employees and local students. Since 1975, APSEA and the APSEA Foundation have advocated for the advancement of its members, who are primarily California State government employees. APSEA holds training seminars and provides networking opportunities that have resulted in a more well trained state workforce. Additionally, they foster civic participation and cultural awareness throughout Sacramento. The APSEA Foundation raises money to provide vital scholarships for our leaders of tomorrow.

At the 16th annual gala, Darrel H. Woo is being honored with APSEA's President Award.

Mr. Woo is a community leader and activist who serves as a senior staff counsel for the State of California Department of Insurance, as well as an elected trustee of the Sacramento City Unified School District. Jim Kahue is also being honored at this year's gala, as APSEA's Member of the Year Award. Mr. Kahue has been a public servant since 1960 when he began working for the State of California. He has been actively involved in APSEA as the organization's co-founder and its first president.

Mr. Speaker, as the members of the Asian Pacific State Employees Association and the Asian Pacific State Employees Association Foundation gather to celebrate, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring them for their unwavering commitment to the Sacramento Region.

RECOGNIZING THE ENLISTMENT OF TWENTY-THREE GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS FROM FLORIDA'S 20TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize twenty-three graduating seniors from my Congressional district for their record of scholastic and athletic accomplishment, and their honorable decision to enlist in the United States Military.

As graduation season begins this year, thousands of young people all across the nation are preparing for the next chapter in their lives. Many will pursue higher education or vocational training, some will enter the workforce immediately, and a select few will dedicate themselves to serving their country.

The United States of America has set itself apart by the determination and spirit of our people, the knowledge that we can achieve any goal if we set our minds to it, our inherent compassion and generosity, our fierce patriotism, and the extraordinary sacrifices and dedication to country exhibited by the members of our Armed Forces. The young men and women from our community who will be enlisting possess an abundance of each of these qualities. I join with their families and friends in congratulating and commending the following graduates on their enlistment in the United States Military:

Darrius Freeman, Royal Palm Beach, FL—Air Force

Cacinni Young, West Palm Beach, FL—Air Force

Jelani Mccray, Riviera Beach, FL—Air Force

Devon Breen, Loxahatchee, FL—Army

Angel Sanchez, Lake Harbor, FL—Army

Arturo Roblero, West Palm Beach, FL—Army

Cristian Martinez, West Palm Beach, FL—Marines

Ryan Dunning, West Palm Beach, FL—Marines

Yvesland Belizaire, Boynton Beach, FL—Marines

Monroe Desulma, Boynton Beach, FL—Marines

Cesar Silva, Belle Glade, FL—Marines

Gunnar Gustafson, Wellington, FL—Marines

Kevin Garcia Velasquez, West Palm Beach, FL—Marines

Manuel Palomino, West Palm Beach, FL—Marines

Christie Pierre, Riviera Beach, FL—Marines

Michael Westman, Lake Worth, FL—Marines

Bryan Headley, Riviera Beach, FL—Marines

Peter Gay Bryan, West Palm Beach, FL—Marines

Tyi Thomas, Riviera Beach, FL—Marines

Phillip Perkins Jr., Riviera Beach, FL—Marines

Ruthlynn Laurince, Lantana, FL—Navy

Indira Merrick, Belle Glade, FL—Navy

Diana Noethig, West Palm Beach, FL—Navy

Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to recognize these selfless young people for their invaluable commitment to serve our great nation, and their leadership and courage as positive examples for their fellow classmates. I wish them all the very best.

KONRAD SCHNEIDER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Konrad Schneider for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Konrad Schneider is an 8th grader at Wheat Ridge 5-8 and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Konrad Schneider is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Konrad Schneider for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

WALTER SCOTT AND POLICE VIOLENCE IN AMERICA: WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Ms. LEE. First, let me thank Congressman JEFFRIES for his leadership in hosting this important Special Order on a critical issue facing every single member of the House—the senseless murder of our young African American male constituents and the overmilitarization of our police forces.

My heart and prayers continue to go out to Walter Scott's family. Losing a loved one is always incredibly hard. But it is unbearable when a life is cut short.

The unfortunate truth is the tragic death of Walter Scott is another in a series of tragedies that remind us that, to some, the lives of young black men and women do not matter.

Tragedies like Michael Brown, Eric Garner, and Oscar Grant—one of my constituents—are far too common in communities across this country.

As the mother of two black men and two black grandsons, I have had many uncomfortable but necessary conversations about how to walk, how to talk and how to interact with police.

This is not just my reality. It is also the reality of millions of other black mothers and grandmothers.

Tonight, we stand here, once again, to discuss the ongoing failures of our criminal justice system and over-use of deadly force by law enforcement across the country.

In order to address the problem people need to know the facts.

I applaud President Obama's Task Force on 21st Century Policing.

The Task Force provided much needed recommendations, such as the creation of a National Crime and Justice Task Force that will review all components of the criminal justice system and provide recommendations on comprehensive criminal justice reform as well as renewed focus on community policing.

The unfortunate facts are since President Obama's Task Force on 21st Century Policing released its report; there have been more than 100 fatal police shootings in America.

Every 28 hours an African American male is killed by a security officer.

1 in 3 African American men and 1 in 6 Latino men will spend some part of their lives in prison.

The truth is that disparity and inequality continue at every level of our society, especially in our criminal justice system.

It's past time that Congress start enacting policies to dismantle the bias endemic in our institutions.

We must come together like never before to tackle the systemic, structural and rampant racial bias endemic in our institutions and criminal justice system.

We need to empower communities and work to build greater trust between law enforcement and the community, especially communities of color.

That is why Congress should pass the bipartisan Stop Militarizing Law Enforcement Act (H.R. 1232), which I am a proud cosponsor of, to stop the militarization of our nation's police forces.

We need to pass the Police Accountability Act (H.R. 1102) and the Grand Jury Reform Act (H.R. 429) so we can ensure that deadly force cases are heard by a judge and there is more accountability among police officers.

Congress should also work to pass the Shield Our Streets Act (H.R. 103) to increase investments in proven, community-orientated policing programs that reduce crime and increase community and law enforcement trust and understanding.

Congress must work with the Department of Justice to ensure training programs are available to ALL law enforcement officials to reduce racial bias and profiling and provide law enforcement officers with the resources to address, defuse and manage situations without the unnecessary use of deadly force.

We also must support funding programs that focus on increasing police force diversity and retention of qualified officers in communities. This is something that the President's Task Force recommended in its report.

It is vital that Congress acts to ensure the tragedies in Ferguson, Staten Island, Oakland—in my district—and now North Charleston are not repeated.

So I urge my colleagues to support these efforts that can end the structural injustice that is endemic in our criminal justice system.

These events must be our call to action—as Dr. King reminded us in his "Two Americas" speech in 1967.

He said: 'We must come to see that social progress never rolls in on the wheels of inevitability. It comes through the tireless efforts and the persistent work of dedicated individuals.'

We must, each of us, be those dedicated individuals working persistently for the social progress that is so greatly needed.

Too much is at stake to do nothing—we must act and act now.

HONORING VICKI SAPORTA

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring Vicki Saporta for 20 years of outstanding leadership and service as President and CEO of the National Abortion Federation (NAF).

As the first woman organizing director for an international union and now as a visionary leader in the reproductive health, rights, and justice movement, Vicki Saporta has spent her career fighting for women's equality and to improve women's lives. Since taking the helm of NAF in 1995, President Saporta has worked tirelessly to ensure women's access to safe, legal abortion care.

Recognizing the need to address violence against abortion providers, Saporta successfully advocated for the establishment of the Department of Justice's National Task Force on Violence Against Health Care Providers. She has actively worked with Attorney General Janet Reno and Eric Holder; the Department of Justice; Federal Bureau of Investigation, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, and U.S. Marshals to improve law enforcement response to clinic violence. As a result, major incidences of violence against abortion providers have decreased significantly in recent years.

Saporta has brought abortion providers and their patients into the forefront of the public debate about abortion. In 1996, she brought five women and their families to the Oval Office to meet with President Clinton, who publicly announced that he vetoed a federal abortion ban because he was so moved by their stories. More recently, she worked closely with Congress to build support for lifting a decades-long ban on federal funding for abortion care for servicemembers and their dependents in cases of rape and incest—one of the only pro-choice legislative victories in the last 40 years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring President and CEO Vicki Saporta for her outstanding service to reproductive health. Her legacy continues to offer a powerful example for serving our communities.

MARCUS LOPEZ

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Marcus Lopez for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Marcus Lopez is a 12th grader at Wheat Ridge High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Marcus Lopez is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Marcus Lopez for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

IN HONOR OF THE UNVEILING OF THE DACHAU VICTIMS MEMORIAL AT THE DURHAM HEBREW CEMETERY IN DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the unveiling of a very special memorial in my congressional district in Durham, North Carolina. On Sunday, April 26, 2015, a memorial forever marking the final resting place of ashes from victims who lost their lives during the Holocaust at the Dachau Concentration Camp in Germany will be unveiled in the Durham Hebrew Cemetery.

The amazing and unlikely journey that brought these hallowed ashes to their final resting place in Durham, North Carolina took over seventy years.

David Walter Corsbie, Jr. served in the United States Army Air Corps with the 364th Fighter Squadron during World War II. In 1945, shortly after Dachau was liberated by American troops, Mr. Corsbie was sent there on assignment. It was there that a survivor who had been imprisoned at Dachau gave the ashes to Mr. Corsbie telling him to never forget the unspeakable horrors that occurred there.

In late 2012, Mr. Corsbie's son Joseph made the existence of these ashes known after they had remained a secret since the end of World War II. Last year, those ashes were finally laid to rest in the Durham Hebrew Cemetery. The victims whose ashes were interred were finally given the honor and respect they were denied so long ago. A memorial to mark their final resting place will be unveiled this Sunday. This memorial will serve as an enduring reminder that will ensure the victims at Dachau and the millions of others that were lost during the Holocaust are never forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me both in commemorating the unveiling of this

truly special memorial and in solemn remembrance of the millions of lives lost in the concentration camps of World War II.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. MARK JOHNSON

HON. TAMMY DUCKWORTH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Ms. DUCKWORTH. Mr. Speaker, today I rise with sorrow and a heavy heart in recognition of Mr. Mark Johnson, a former DuPage High School District 88 Board of Education Member and constituent of mine. Mark was diagnosed with bone cancer this past spring and passed away on December 13, 2014.

Mark did everything with a sense of commitment and dedication. His contributions and character have greatly impacted our community, and his legacy will not only live on in the School District, but also in the hearts of those who knew him.

Mark served on the District 88 Board of Education since 1999 and was President from 2003–2011. He graduated from Willowbrook High School in 1966 and received the school's Distinguished Alumni Award in 2012. Through being a District 88 graduate and Board member, a D.A.R.E. officer and a Villa Park Police Department employee, Mark was involved in the communities of District 88 for more than 50 years.

Thank you Mark for all that you have done for DuPage County, you will be sorely missed.

KYLE PAPPAS-ADAMSON

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Kyle Pappas-Adamson for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Kyle Pappas-Adamson is a 12th grader at Arvada West High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Kyle Pappas-Adamson is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Kyle Pappas-Adamson for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

JOB CORPS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Job Corps on the occasion of its fiftieth anniversary.

Five decades ago, President Lyndon Johnson stood before Congress and challenged us to end poverty in the United States. Job Corps is a critical part of the answer to that challenge. Since 1965, the program has helped level the playing field for more than two million disadvantaged young men and women through its 125 centers across 48 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

Young people come to Job Corps unsure about their future and often in need of a second chance. When they graduate, they are ready to take on the challenges and opportunities of the adult world. Put simply, Job Corps changes lives for the better.

Job Corps is not like other career preparation programs. It does not just train and educate its participants. It instills in them discipline, structure, and the social skills they need to be successful in their lives.

I had the honor of taking part in the opening of Connecticut's very first Job Corps center in New Haven in 1996. A year later, I returned to serve as graduation speaker. I was amazed at how far the students had come.

Today, the New Haven Job Corps center is among the best in the nation. Armed with the right skills, its alumni pursue careers everywhere from Yale-New Haven Hospital to the Department of Homeland Security.

Job Corps successfully places more than three quarters of its graduates in higher education programs or careers. Thanks to this track record of achievement, our nation now has many more skilled young people ready for careers as emergency medical technicians, chefs, nurses, carpenters, entrepreneurs, and all kinds of other vocations.

No investment is more critical than investment in our human capital. If we want to compete in the global economy, we must invest in the workers of tomorrow and give them the skills they need to succeed. For half a century, Job Corps has been doing just that.

I could not be more proud of the role I have played, as Chair and Ranking Member of the Appropriations Subcommittee that funds Job Corps, in supporting the program. I congratulate Job Corps, its staff, and its many graduates on fifty years of success.

HONORING BOB RULEY

HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Bob Ruley, a dedicated service member, loving family man, and proud New Mexican.

Growing up in Encino, New Mexico, Bob learned the importance of hard work, shared responsibility and a commitment to his family and country. When Bob was 8 years old, his mother passed away and the siblings were expected to step up and support the family. Every morning at 8:00 a.m., Bob and his brother would wake up, strap on their boots, and prep his family's 110 cattle for the all-day excursion across town.

As Bob got older, World War II intensified in Europe, and on February 7, 1941 in El Paso, Texas, Bob made a decision that would change his life. At the age of 18, in front of a

tiny kiosk amid the bustling Alligator Square crowd, Bob enlisted into the United States Army's Eighth Cavalry Regiment, First Cavalry Division.

In total, Bob spent over 4 years in service to the United States in what was a remarkable career. As a Cavalryman, Bob conducted strategic maneuvers on the Louisiana and Texas borders with his horse Stony (Army Number 5U27) to protect against any German attacks that could originate in Mexico.

On December 2, 1942, Bob began training and prepared for deployment to the Philippines. As an Infantryman he completed two beachheads in the Pacific theatre. The first was January, 1944 at Manus Island, Philippines, with instructions to take the Lorengau airstrip. Bob's unit, the Eighth Cavalry Regiment, landed at Lugos Mission and led the charge for the U.S. forces. Bob explained, "Anytime you were a lead guy, you got hit". That didn't stop Bob or the Eighth Cavalry Regiment from pushing forward and repelling the enemy. At the end of the battle, U.S. forces successfully drove the Japanese from the island. Bob later earned a Purple Heart for his injuries sustained during the conflict.

The second beachhead was October, 1944 at the Battle of Leyte Gulf, in what became known as one of the most decisive battles of the war. Bob recalled the heroism of the troops, and in particular, two local Filipino men who spent all night paddling 185 men up and down the river. The battle was so influential that President Truman announced a Presidential citation for the skill, bravery, and courage that U.S. forces displayed in the victory.

On September 12, 1945, Bob returned home and began looking for work. Employment prospects were slim and, for Bob, that meant taking odd jobs to make a living. Whether he was delivering flowers, passing out court summons, or covering the night shift at a meat factory for an overworked employee, Bob always did what was needed to provide for his family. He eventually landed a full time job at the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway Company in Las Vegas, New Mexico, where he would spend the next 38 years as a Conductor and Brakeman.

Bob's story reminds us of a generation of Americans who, with hard work, persistence and determination, resolved to build a better America—a generation that constructed our modern concept of the "American Dream" and safeguarded the freedoms that we enjoy today. I have known Bob my whole adult life and am fortunate to have felt his exuberant joy and generous heart over the years. He could always be found at the local Denny's, walking along the perimeter of the University of New Mexico's North golf course, at his favorite restaurant, Hurricane's, in downtown Albuquerque, or spending time with his family that he cherished deeply.

From his childhood efforts to support his family, to risking his life overseas to preserve the liberties of millions of Americans, to fighting to create a richer life for his children, Bob represents the very best of our country. Bob's enduring legacy of service, sacrifice and unwavering faith in our community, state, and country will remain a lasting inspiration for future generations.

MARQUEZ NEUMILLER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Marqez Neumiller for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Marqez Neumiller is an 8th grader at North Arvada Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Marqez Neumiller is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Marqez Neumiller for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO MR. GABRIEL
ROSENFELD

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Gabriel Rosenfeld, who is being honored in memoriam at the Neighbors Link Gala this year, where the "Be a Hero" award will be instituted in his name.

Mr. Rosenfeld, known to all as Gabby, was a good friend of mine. He was born and raised in Brooklyn, New York, and fought in World War II, during which he was awarded the Bronze Star and a Purple Heart. In recognition of his service to the people of France, he was also inducted into the French Legion of Honor in 2011 and awarded the French Legion of Honor medal. Following the war, Gabby attended Cornell University, where he met his wife Louise, and together they moved to Chappaqua, New York, in my district.

While living in Chappaqua, Gabby was known for his devotion to serving the community. He served as chairman of the Zoning Board of Appeals for the Town of New Castle for over 30 years, as well as serving on the boards of the Katonah Museum of Art, Northern Westchester Hospital, A-Home, and the Holocaust and Human Rights Education Center. He was a president of the Rotary Club and also a long-time and very active member of the New Castle Historical Society, the League of Women Voters, and the New Castle Democratic Committee.

Additionally, Gabby served on the board of Neighbors Link, an organization dedicated to the healthy integration of immigrants into our communities. In memory of his lifetime of hard work and commitment to the mission of their organization, Neighbors Link has created the "Be A Hero" award in Gabby's name. This annual honor will pay tribute to his legacy, and will be presented to individuals who have demonstrated vision, compassion, and commitment to his or her community.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of my good friend Mr. Gabriel Rosenfeld. I urge my colleagues to join me in celebrating his life, and to praise Neighbor's Link for the creation of the "Be a Hero" award in his name.

REGARDING THE ONGOING NEGOTIATIONS TO PREVENT IRAN FROM ACQUIRING A NUCLEAR WEAPON

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I stand to commend the efforts of President Obama and our P5+1 partners to achieve a strong, verifiable agreement to prevent Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapon.

The economic sanctions imposed through joint action from the Congress and the president, combined with the sanctions imposed by our international partners, have succeeded in bringing Iran to the negotiating table. We must maintain the unity that has succeeded in keeping the pressure on Iran. That unity helped produce an interim agreement last November that, among other things, effectively eliminated Iran's stockpile of more highly enriched nuclear material. Even the early critics of the interim agreement have now acknowledged that it was a useful step.

We now have The Framework for a Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action on Iran's Nuclear Program that represents another important step toward the goal of preventing Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon. As the Administration has acknowledged, many important details remain to be negotiated in the coming months. I will be carefully monitoring and reviewing the ongoing negotiations to determine whether the final product meets the objectives we have established. As these negotiations proceed, it is important that Congress refrain from taking actions that could weaken our negotiating position and undermine the multi-lateral sanctions that brought Iran to the negotiating table.

There is a very important role for Congress in this process. Congress will review this agreement and have the opportunity to act. Moreover, any repeal of the sanctions legislation will require congressional action. As negotiations continue, I look forward to working with the president and my congressional colleagues to prevent Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon. I agree with President Obama that it would be best if we can achieve that objective by negotiating a verifiable agreement.

LOGAN BEDFORD

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Logan Bedford for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Logan Bedford is a 12th grader at Warren Tech

North and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Logan Bedford is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Logan Bedford for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING DAVE MCCONNELL

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Dave McConnell, who this year is observing his 50th year in the District of Columbia at WTOP Radio, where he has provided outstanding service to radio listeners in Washington, D.C. and the national capital region.

For five decades, Dave McConnell has been the deeply crisp golden voice the national capital region has tuned in to for news. Dave has brilliantly made himself the preeminent reporter the region can trust to get the news straight. Dave's grasp of the complicated news of the day is so profound that he can summarize it in a few short edifying sentences. So significant has been Dave's talented voice, his peerless dedication to unbiased reporting, and his vast knowledge of Congress and of Washington that WTOP owes part of its continued success to Dave McConnell.

A graduate of the University of Maryland, Dave McConnell was drafted to work for Armed Forces Radio before returning to the Washington area, where he first worked at WTTG Channel Five and WMAL before starting at WTOP in 1965, where he has remained for 50 years.

Dave continues to thrive in his career. His popular "Today on the Hill" reports are broadcast each weekday, each hour in the morning and afternoon, with the occasional special reports. Dave has provided exemplary coverage of 12 presidential elections, five inaugurations, and countless political changes. He has been the recipient of a host of honors. Among the most notable are his recent Career Achievement of the Radio and Television Correspondents Association award in 2013 along with his 2001 AIR Lifetime Achievement Award and the Society of Professional Journalists Hall of Fame award in 1999.

Mr. Speaker, Members of Congress, like residents of the District of Columbia, where WTOP is located, and the entire national capital region, have benefited from Dave's straight forward and always unbiased reporting. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Dave McConnell for 50 years of extraordinary reporting with WTOP Radio.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 26TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RELEASE OF "FIELD OF DREAMS"

HON. ROD BLUM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. BLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the motion picture, "Field of Dreams," which is set in the First District of Iowa. 26 years ago today, movie-goers were introduced to the wonderful pastoral landscapes that dot my district and first heard "If you build it, he will come." Since then, the movie, adapted from the novel "Shoeless Joe" by W.P. Kinsella, has become recognized as a representation of classic American cinema.

Directed by Phil Alden Robinson and starring Kevin Costner, Amy Madigan, James Earl Jones, Ray Liotta, and Burt Lancaster, "Field of Dreams" uniquely blends the importance of family, dreams deferred, and America's pastime—baseball. Released on April 21, 1989, "Field of Dreams" received three Academy Award nominations: Best Original Score, Best Adapted Screenplay, and Best Picture.

The original farmhouse and baseball diamond from the movie, in Dyersville, Iowa, is open daily to the public for the 2015 season through October free of charge. On July 5, 2015, the ghost players will return to the field for their first "Ghost Sunday" game of the year. Visitors enjoy a ball game played by the baseball legends appearing in the movie. I encourage all fans to visit the Field of Dreams site website at www.fodmoviesite.com for more information.

On the anniversary of the release of "Field of Dreams," I encourage all baseball lovers, movie-buffs, and Americans to visit this timeless piece of Americana where they may ask themselves: "Is this heaven?—No, it's Iowa."

MELISSA PEREZ

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Melissa Perez for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Melissa Perez is an 8th grader at Wheat Ridge 5-8 and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Melissa Perez is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Melissa Perez for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

IN HONOR OF MS. DEE RASCO

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Dee Rasco, an exemplary teacher, on the day of her eighth grade class' trip to our nation's Capitol. Ms. Rasco has taught at Junipero Serra School in Carmel, CA for 25 years and has led her class on the Washington, DC trip for the last 15 years. A day has not gone by without her inspiring her students to learn, flourish, and thrive.

Ms. Rasco embodies the qualities of an extraordinary educator. An expert on U.S. history, she instills a love for our nation's heritage and tradition in her students. She encourages an unending curiosity and love of learning that will endure over a lifetime. She patiently works with all students regardless of individual difficulties; her passion to help them succeed overcomes all barriers.

Mr. Speaker, a great teacher is a treasure to her school, community, and country. I ask my colleagues to join with me in recognizing and thanking Ms. Dee Rasco for her dedication.

WISHING SSGT HOWARD LEE
PAYNE A HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, in February, 1942, Howard Payne was a 27-year old employee of the Bank of Benton when he received his induction notice. He reported to the Scott Field, IL, Induction Center and was assigned an Army serial number. Payne completed his basic training at Camp McCoy, WI, the site of the Second Army Maneuvers where 65,000 Soldiers from seven states formed the largest troop concentration in the Midwest. Payne was sent to Fort Sheridan, IL and then to Camp Ellis near Macomb, IL where he was assigned to the 368th Engineer Battalion. In October 1943, Payne's battalion was alerted that it would be shipping out from Camp Shanks, NY.

Payne remembers leaving the New York Harbor and viewing the Statue of Liberty. "Our Captain told us to take a good look at the Statue because some of you will never see her again." Payne recounts, "He was right. I saw an unbelievable loss of life. We did not outgun the German's. We just outnumbered them."

Payne was with the first military convoy to travel overseas. Passage of the Atlantic Ocean was dangerous because the German's controlled the air and sea with submarines below and with airplanes above. It took his ship 14 days to cross the Atlantic Ocean due to the strength of the enemy. "Our ship had to zigzag in the ocean to keep out of harm's way." Most American troop ships were accompanied by battleships.

Payne's ship landed in Bristol, England, amid a furious battle. German airplanes were strafing Bristol's railroad tracks, city streets, and local citizens. To help ward off the low fly-

ing airplanes, the residents of Bristol had erected huge balloons to keep the planes from flying at a low altitude. "We were introduced to war shortly after we landed." Members of the 368th were boarded on trains and transported to Liverpool, England. "We began building airports and housing for the troops," noted Payne. While they were constructing airfields and barracks, the United States declared war on Germany.

In May, 1944, the 368th were told that they would be a part of an invasion. "We loaded our ships with equipment and troops and waited. Multiple times we were told to "ship-out," but on two occasions, we were ordered to "stand-down." Weather played a role in the timeline for the invasion. "Finally, we got orders to ship out" Payne remembers. On June 6, 1944, U.S. Army Private Payne was in the second wave at Utah Beach in the Normandy Peninsula Invasion. Payne joined thousands of Americans in Operation Overlord.

GIs from the 368th were transferred from ships to Landing Ships, Tanks (LST). The LSTs were filled with caterpillars, tractors, and heavy construction equipment. The weight of the equipment caused the LST to sit deep in the water. "Our LST hit the ocean's floor early and we had to jump out and wade ashore."

Utah Beach was one of the five sectors of the Allied invasion of German-occupied France in the Normandy landings. The westernmost of the five landing beaches, Utah is on the Cotentin Peninsula. Amphibious landings at Utah were undertaken by U.S. Army troops, with sea transport and naval artillery support provided by the U.S. Navy, with elements from the British Royal Navy.

The objective at Utah Beach was to secure a beachhead, the location of important port facilities at Cherbourg. The amphibious assault by the U.S. 4th Infantry Division and 70th Tank Battalion was supported by airborne landings of the 82nd and the 101st. Their mission was to seal off the Cotentin Peninsula to prevent the Germans from reinforcing Cherbourg. The Allies faced two battalions of the 919th Grenadier Regiment, part of the 709th Static Infantry Division. German fortifications were under the leadership of "The Desert Fox," Field Marshal Erwin Rommel.

Payne remembers that the beaches were strewn with men who were dead, dying and wounded. The Germans were high over the cliffs. The first goal was to get ashore and scale the cliffs. "When we got to the top of the cliffs, I thought the rough part was over, but I discovered the bad stuff was just beginning" Payne recalls.

Members of the 368th immediately began clearing the area of obstacles and mines. Additional American reinforcements continued to arrive. At the close of D-Day, Allied forces had captured about half of the planned area. Contingents of German defenders remained, but the beachhead was secure. Payne's unit pushed the Germans back to Le Mans, France. The 368th constructed a pontoon bridge to facilitate the European Theater of Operations and allowed Lieutenant Colonel Christian Clarke, Jr. to move his 358th Infantry, 90th Infantry Division across the river. Clarke proceeded on into Western France.

Payne was with the forces that helped liberate Paris, fought the enemy to Luxembourg, and was caught in the Ardennes region of Wallonia in Belgium. It was the winter of 1944 when the Allied Forces had to defend the important harbor of Antwerp from the Germans

in a 40-day surprise attack that came to be known as the "Battle of the Bulge." Between December 16, 1944, and January 25, 1945, the U.S. forces fought back the German attack, and in doing so, incurred their highest casualties for any operation of the war. America's fighting spirit prevailed and, late in January, the Allied forces scored a decisive victory over Germany.

The Allied forces fought the enemy up the Ryan River and forced the German's back to Berlin. Payne's battalion was stopped from attacking Berlin due to terms of the Yalta Agreement. The United States and England capitulated to Russia, and agreed that the only invading forces would be the Red Army. "We had the fight and we had the spirit to battle the enemy all the way to Berlin, but Russian dictator Joseph Stalin had convinced the Allied forces to stop our progress."

On May 8, 1945, Payne was near Dusseldorf, Germany when the Allied forces announced Victory in Europe. The six-year-old War had concluded in Europe, but the Japanese were still fighting in the Pacific Theatre. Payne and others were told that GIs involved in the Normandy Invasion were exempt from the war in the Pacific. The Pacific conflict ended only after the August 6, 1945, detonation of the Atomic Bomb. President Harry S. Truman ordered the deployment of the new weapon that caused the Japanese to capitulate to Allied demands. Payne waited from June until November to be shipped back to the states.

On Dec. 5, 1945, Payne was discharged from the U.S. Army with the rank of Staff Sergeant. Ten days after his discharge, he married Helene Takie in his hometown of Benton, IL. Their marriage lasted almost 65 years, until her passing in July, 2010. Payne returned to his position at the Bank of Benton and eventually became its president. He remains active as a community leader, a champion of education projects and a philanthropist.

Mr. Speaker, today Payne will celebrate his 100th birthday at his rural Benton, Illinois, home. We extend our deepest appreciation to Howard Lee Payne for his service to his country, both in battle during WWII, and for his post-war contributions.

PATRICIA JOAN HOFSTETTER

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of former Judge Patricia "Pat" Joan Hofstetter, who passed away on March 25, 2015, at her home in Ferndale, California. Ms. Hofstetter was a pioneer for women on the California bench, and her commitment to the communities in which she lived was well known to everyone acquainted with her. A longtime fisherwoman, Ms. Hofstetter grew to know and love Northern California rivers, for which she was a staunch advocate.

Born in Burbank, California, on August 25, 1927, to Helen Culbertson and Leonard Orin Hofstetter, Ms. Hofstetter grew up in the towns of Artesia and Whittier. She graduated from Whittier High School in 1943, Monmouth College in 1948, and Boalt Hall Law School at the University of California at Berkeley in 1951.

Ms. Hofstetter opened a law office with her sister Marilyn in 1953. She was appointed to judge at Whittier Municipal in 1963, and became the first woman to serve as President of the California Judges Association in 1976.

Ms. Hofstetter was a life member of Soroptimist International and the American Association of University Women. She served on the College Board at Monmouth College, where she was later inducted into the Hall of Fame. Ms. Hofstetter was an active member of the Democratic Party and a champion of democratic values on the North Coast.

Among her favorite hobbies was fishing the rivers and lakes of California and Oregon with her lifelong friend and partner, former California Assemblywoman Sally Tanner. In 2001 and 2002, Pat and Sally were winners in the California-Oregon Fishing Derby. Ms. Hofstetter was an avid poker and bridge player and had a great appreciation for music and movies. Pat is survived by her companion Sally Tanner; her sister Helen Raphael and niece Rose Anne of New Liberia, Louisiana; her sister Marilyn Hofstetter of Ferndale and nephew John Raphael and wife Christine, along with their children Melanie and Kathleen.

Mr. Speaker, it is with deep respect that we pay tribute to Ms. Patricia Hofstetter and extend condolences to her partner, Sally Tanner, and surviving family. Her presence will be sorely missed and her legacy not soon forgotten.

H. RES. 208, THE EQUALITY FOR ALL RESOLUTION OF 2015

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 208, the Equality for All Resolution of 2015, which is being introduced by my good friend from Indiana Mr. CARSON.

As a founding member and Vice Chair of the LGBT Equality Caucus and representative of a diverse and vibrant LGBT community in California's 13th Congressional district, I strongly support this legislation.

It is a shame and a disgrace that in 2015, after the LGBT community has made such enormous strides towards equal protections under the law, that we continue to see discriminatory legislation advanced in states like Indiana and Arkansas.

At a time when what we truly need is comprehensive legislation to ensure that LGBT individuals are treated and protected, intolerance is sadly being codified in law under the false flag of religious liberties.

I am glad that the national reaction to discriminatory RFRA laws was swift and disapproving, from businesses and individuals, to governments and communities. I was proud that the City of Oakland located in my district, banned city-funded travel to Indiana in the wake of the state's discriminatory statute.

Now, Congress must respond by sending a strong message that we will not stand for prejudice and small-mindedness.

This resolution is a step in the right direction. It outlines the need for LGBT people to receive full protections under the law and urges comprehensive legislation to prohibit

discrimination in areas where unequal treatment against LGBT people is still the law of the land.

I thank the gentleman from Indiana as well as my fellow colleagues in the LGBT Equality Caucus for introducing this important resolution and urge my colleagues to lend it their support.

HONORING DIANE JUERGENSMEYER FOR BEING NAMED TO THE MISSOURI SPORTS HALL OF FAME

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Coach Diane Juergensmeyer for being named to the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame. Coach Juergensmeyer led the St. Elizabeth softball team to more than 400 wins in 31 seasons, including three state titles.

Coach Juergensmeyer's dedication to her players, both on and off the softball field, brought more than state champions to St. Elizabeth. Her mentorship throughout the years helped mold her players into respectful young women, and it was her leadership that united a school and a community.

I ask you to join me in congratulating Coach Diane Juergensmeyer for receiving this distinctive honor.

HONORING THE BELMONT UNIVERSITY BRUINS

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Belmont University and its men's basketball program, the Belmont Bruins, led by Coach Rick Byrd.

Under Coach Byrd's leadership, Belmont's basketball program has flourished. Belmont is consistently among the top Division I teams and has made it to seven NCAA tournaments. But its most prestigious accomplishments are not on the court. The USA Today said it best: "Belmont wins where it counts: In the classroom."

Thanks to its perfect score from Inside Higher Ed's rankings, Belmont won the national championship for academics for the second time in three years. Every single player graduates. The team's cumulative grade point average has been above 3.0 for fourteen consecutive seasons, and no Belmont player since 2003 has left the basketball team for any reason other than graduation.

Belmont's successes both on and off the court have separated the Bruins from the rest of the pack. Today, I join my fellow Tennesseans in honoring Coach Rick Byrd and the Belmont Bruins for their vigorous commitment to the highest standards in academics and athletics. They make our district and the state of Tennessee proud.

HONORING NATIONAL CRIME
VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK

HON. ROBERT J. DOLD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the observance of National Crime Victims' Rights Week and to thank Mike Nerheim and the Lake County State's Attorney's Office for organizing the event. This year's theme of engaging communities and empowering victims emphasizes the role that communities can and should play to support victims of crime during their recovery.

Engaging communities to recognize the impact of victimization enables us to help more victims by providing a safe environment where they are supported and empowered. By working with local community leaders like victim counselor Debbie Vanderwall, State's Attorney's citizen advisor Pastor John Caples and education advocate Jonathan Meier, we can leverage our resources to better understand the needs of victims.

We are fortunate that Lake County is such a strong community, eager to offer help to those who need it. I am honored to work with State's Attorney Mike Nerheim to help raise awareness for this important cause and facilitate new partnerships to elevate victims' rights.

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF TOM
RAY RAPER

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Tom Ray Raper, an innovative entrepreneur, generous philanthropist and devoted family man from the Sixth District of Indiana.

Tom embodied what it meant to live the American Dream. He took a \$2,000 investment in 1964 to open a small used car dealership and eventually turned it into one of the largest RV dealerships in America. He owned and operated Tom Raper RVs for 38 more years before selling his dealership empire to David Bane's Camping World Company in 2002.

Not only was Tom a monumental success in the RV business, but he was also known for his huge heart and charitable spirit. After selling his company, Mr. Raper used his time and money to give back to the Richmond community. In 2009, Indiana University East renamed Middlefork Hall to Tom Raper Hall after he bequeathed \$2.17 million to the university. Tom donated more than \$1 million to Wayne County to build a 5,000-seat exhibition building and to make other improvements to the Wayne County Fairgrounds. He also gave \$250,000 to the city to transform the gymnasium at the Civil Hall into a modern performing arts center.

Most recently, Tom, established a \$50,000 endowed scholarship fund at Ivy Tech Community College in Richmond as a means to provide more students with the opportunity to get a college education. It is for selfless contributions like these that the city of Richmond

renamed Williamsburg Pike to Williamsburg Pike/Tom Raper Way.

I have had the pleasure to meet with Tom several times throughout my life. He was an icon in Richmond and a philanthropic inspiration for any man or woman looking to give back to their community. I will always be grateful for the contributions he has made to improve the great city of Richmond, Indiana.

Today, it is my privilege to honor the life of Tom Raper. My thoughts and prayers go out to Tom's family and his wife of 46 years, Suzanne. May God comfort those he left behind with His peace and strength.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH
ANNIVERSARY OF JOB CORPS

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Job Corps program as it celebrates its 50th anniversary.

For fifty years, Job Corps has served America's most at-risk and vulnerable youths by providing an opportunity to finish their education while obtaining career training and the skills necessary to become productive members of society. It is Job Corps' unique model, partnering the federal government with private industry that has made the program so successful for so many years. Each year Job Corps serves over 50,000 at-risk youth at 125 residential campuses located across the country, and over eighty percent of Job Corps graduates find employment, enlist in the military, or enroll in higher education classes.

I am honored to represent two of these outstanding centers: the Earle C. Clements Job Corps Center in Morganfield and the Muhlenberg Job Corps Center in Greenville. These centers are true assets to their communities. I have visited these centers in person, and I have met with educators, staff, and students. It is the students who are the true testament to the success of this program, and I am moved each time I visit with them and hear just how much Job Corps has changed their lives.

I cofounded the Friends of Job Corps Congressional Caucus in 2006 because I believe in this program. I congratulate Job Corps on its fifty years of success, and I hope it will continue to enrich the lives of many more young people in the years to come.

RECOGNIZING POWERTALK 21

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize National Alcohol Awareness Day and the Mothers Against Drunk Driving's (MADD) initiative to have open discussions with children about alcohol. PowerTalk 21 is a program that gives families an opportunity to come together to discuss the dangers of underage drinking.

The Southeast Florida chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Driving has been proactive in

their efforts to educate the community about the dangers of underage drinking. This year they have offered more ways than ever before to share personal experiences about alcohol abuse and the consequences of driving under the influence.

Every day from April 1 to April 21, MADD volunteers published blog posts about their personal tragedies caused by individuals driving under the influence. By sharing their stories, these brave volunteers have given a face to the daunting statistics of lives lost to drunk driving.

The Southeast Florida Chapter of MADD has a long history of championing efforts to raise awareness of underage drinking in our community. They also facilitate the DUI Victim Impact Panel Program, an awareness program for offenders convicted of driving under the influence of alcohol or other drugs. This program shows offenders the trauma, emotional suffering, and financial loss that is commonly experienced by innocent victims and their family members resulting from a DUI-related accident.

I am honored to recognize the PowerTalk 21 program, and I hope that this initiative can help inspire our community to come together to make safer decisions for all of us in South Florida and around the United States.

IN SUPPORT OF THE "START BY
BELIEVING" CAMPAIGN

HON. ANN KIRKPATRICK

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mrs. KIRKPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, according to the Arizona Department of Public Safety, there were 1,725 reports of rape or attempted rape in 2012, which is five sexual assaults per day. And in 2014, the U.S. Department of Justice gave an alarming estimate that as many as 1 in 3 Native American women would be sexually assaulted in their lifetime, a rate 2.5 times higher than for any other group.

Unfortunately, only 40 percent of sexual assaults are reported, and if the victim is in college that number is cut in half, according to the Justice Department. Research and information from Pennsylvania State University and a 2010 U.S. Senate subcommittee hearing found that the top reason sexual assault victims do not report the crime is their fear of not being believed and being blamed for the attack.

To address this issue, End Violence Against Women International has developed a program titled "Start By Believing," a message that confronts the reality that many victims do not get the support they need when they report the crime. Local governments, private businesses, universities and colleges across the country are participating in the Start By Believing campaign.

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month, and I encourage people everywhere to share this simple message of support for survivors of sexual assault.

TRIBUTE TO HONOR FLIGHT OF
SOUTHERN OREGON

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 26 World War II veterans from Oregon who will be visiting their memorial this Saturday in Washington, D.C. through Honor Flight of Southern Oregon. On behalf of a grateful state and country, we welcome these heroes to our nation's capital.

The veterans on this flight from Oregon are: Lloyd A. Gathright, Army; Ralph K. Lanning, Army; Charles E. Leierer, Army; William S. McMorrine, Army; Edward C. Phillips, Army; Michael Roebuck, Army; Eugene A. Schmick, Army; Clifford W. Scovell, Army; Duane J. Smolik, Army; Vernon Staley, Army; James A. Holland, Army Air Force; Frederic W. Kuhlmann, Army Air Force; Donald D. Williford, Army Air Force; Joe L. Winter, Army Air Force; Charles F. Paul, Marine Corps; Edward C. Glen, Navy; Gerald G. Holland, Navy; Herbert A. Johnson, Navy; Melvin A. Jones, Navy; Robert E. Murray, Navy; Dale B. Palmer, Navy; John K. Penniman, Navy; Walter W. Schafer, Navy; John Wallenburg, Navy; Kenneth A. Wisdom, Navy; Michael D. Zagya, Navy.

These 26 heroes join more than 81,000 veterans from across the country who, since 2005, have journeyed from their home states to Washington, D.C. to reflect at the memorials built in honor of our nation's veterans.

Mr. Speaker, each of us is humbled by the courage of these brave Americans who put themselves in harm's way for our country and way of life. As a nation, we can never fully repay the debt of gratitude owed to them for their honor, commitment, and sacrifice in defense of the freedoms we have today.

My colleagues, please join me in thanking these veterans and the volunteers of Honor Flight of Southern Oregon for their exemplary dedication and service to this great country. I especially want to recognize Honor Flight of Oregon President, Gail Yakopatz. Her tireless work will result in over 350 World War II veterans from Honor Flight of Oregon and Southern Oregon Honor Flight visiting the memorials and U.S. Capitol.

COMMENDING THE NEW RISING
STAR MISSIONARY BAPTIST
CHURCH

HON. MARC A. VEASEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in order to commend The New Rising Star Missionary Baptist Church led by Pastor Isadore Edwards, Jr. for establishing the Raymond B. Spencer Scholarship Fund that strives to not only assist young students in their pursuit of higher education but to embody the generous and selfless spirit of Dr. Raymond Bernard Spencer.

Dr. Raymond Bernard Spencer was born in Houston, Texas on September 21, 1964, as the youngest child to Manfred and Helen

Spencer. After attending public schools in Houston, he went on to obtain his Bachelor of Science Degree from Oklahoma Christian College in 1989. He then completed the Master of Divinity Program at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, which I am proud to represent in Congress. Dr. Raymond Bernard Spencer continued in his education at Southwestern and obtained his doctoral degree in Theology in 2001. As a further distinction and honor, he served as the first full time African American pastor at Southwestern where he taught preaching in the School of Theology while also serving as adjunct professor of the Old and New Testament at Dallas Baptist University. Finally, his service to faith included Superintendent of Church School and Assistant to Pastor Isadore Davis, Jr. at The New Rising Star Missionary Baptist Church in Fort Worth, Texas.

There can be no doubt that Dr. Spencer was an exceptional student, respected seeker of knowledge, and follower in the path of God, but he was also a caring professor, a trusted friend, gifted vocalist, and a generous advocate of academic excellence for students and young people. He pursued all of these passions in life, faith, and academics with such staunch persistence and zeal until he was laid to rest on January 10, 2013. I can think of no better way to honor his lifelong devotion to improving the lives of those around him than continuing his advocacy for higher education with the Raymond B. Spencer Scholarship Fund and I congratulate The New Rising Star Missionary Baptist Church on their tenth anniversary of this wonderful endeavor.

I am so proud to represent The New Rising Star Missionary Baptist Church and many members of their congregation who devote their lives to improving the lives of their young students and opening up opportunities for them to preserve Dr. Spencer's legacy of excellence. Let their efforts serve as a testament to the lives of others for what can be achieved through dedication and devotion to the greater good of humanity.

In honor of The New Rising Star Missionary Baptist Church led by Pastor Isadore Edwards, Jr. and the Raymond B. Spencer Scholarship Fund this statement will be entered into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Tuesday, April 21, 2015.

CONGRATULATING 2015 INDUCTEES
INTO THE IOWA VOLUNTEER
HALL OF FAME

HON. ROD BLUM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. BLUM. Mr. Speaker, Governor Terry E. Branstad and Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds inducted three individuals and one organization into the Iowa Volunteer Hall of Fame on April 14th, 2015 in Des Moines, Iowa. The 2015 inductees include H.D. "Ike" Leighty from Waterloo and the Sisters of Mercy from Cedar Rapids. Both reside in my district and I rise today to honor their hard work and acknowledge their accomplishments.

H.D. "Ike" Leighty co-founded Engineered Products Company in Waterloo, Iowa in 1977. After selling the business, he established The Leighty Foundation and the Mother Moon

Service Scholarship program. Every year, this program awards a college scholarship to one Black Hawk county high school junior who completes over 100 hours of community service. To date, 179 Iowans have received assistance towards a college education from the Mother Moon Service Scholarship.

In 1989, the Sisters of Mercy founded the Catherine McAuley Center to develop long term solutions to poverty in the Cedar Rapids area. Guided by the five core values of empowerment, learning, mercy, community, and commitment, the Sisters provide one-on-one tutoring for adults, as well as transitional housing for victims of domestic violence, and those who suffer from mental illness and substance abuse.

H.D. "Ike" Leighty and the Sisters of Mercy are model citizens and assets to their communities. I encourage all Iowans to visit the State of Iowa Historical Museum in Des Moines and view the Iowa Volunteer Hall of Fame plaques where their names now join 155 other inductees. On behalf of the people of Iowa's first district, I commend Mr. Leighty and the Sisters of Mercy for their selflessness and sacrifice in service to our communities. I congratulate them on their 2015 induction into the Iowa Volunteer Hall of Fame.

A TRIBUTE TO JOHN P. NELSON IN
THE FIRST SESSION OF THE
114TH CONGRESS

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. John P. Nelson for his many years of service and dedication to the Iowa West Foundation. He is an Iowa native and I'm proud to recognize him today for his great achievement.

Mr. Nelson is Chairman of the Board for the Silverstone Group. He graduated from Abraham Lincoln High School in Council Bluffs, Iowa and attended Carleton College in Minnesota and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics. Mr. Nelson then joined the United States Navy and served his country for three years. After leaving the Navy, Mr. Nelson returned to Iowa and joined his family's insurance agency, now the Silverstone Group.

Because of his active service participation throughout the area in business and his community, Mr. Nelson has earned several prestigious awards for his service. He continues to serve on many area boards and commissions. Mr. Nelson's endless dedication, commitment, generosity and leadership to the Iowa West Foundation and the Council Bluffs community has enhanced and improved the quality of life for our community and citizens. Mr. Nelson's devotion to Iowa has helped create a place where it is great to raise a family, work and live.

Mr. Nelson is an Iowan who has made a difference and made our state proud. He has dedicated his life to helping and serving others and it is with great honor that I recognize him today. I know that my colleagues in the House join me in honoring his accomplishments. I thank him for his service and wish him and his family all the best moving forward.

A TRIBUTE TO PAMELA PATTON
IN THE FIRST SESSION OF THE
114TH CONGRESS

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Pamela Patton, an entrepreneurial restaurant owner in Des Moines, Iowa. Ms. Patton received the 2015 Faces of Diversity American Dream Award.

This prestigious award, sponsored by the National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation in partnership with PepsiCo Foodservice, celebrates the importance of diversity and inclusion by recognizing three restaurateurs nationwide that excelled in promoting these goals for 2015. Ms. Patton worked hard and with determination in order to get the funding to pursue her dream. She made the decision to open her restaurant in a neighborhood of Des Moines where she could help elevate a diverse neighborhood, offering jobs to help support the surrounding community.

I applaud and congratulate Pamela for her award and for providing the Des Moines community with her support and service. I am proud to represent her in the United States Congress. I know that my colleagues join me in congratulating Pamela Patton and wishing her well and continued success in the future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RAUL RUIZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, due to the recent birth of my twin daughters, I was unable to be present for votes on the House floor the week of April 13, 2015. Below is an explanation of how I would have voted and why.

I would have voted for H.R. 1259, the Helping Expand Lending Practices in Rural Communities Act, which creates a process for areas to be considered rural to allow otherwise prohibited balloon payments in qualified mortgages. This bill aims to improve access to financing for borrowers in rural, underserved areas, which will help families nationwide achieve the dream of home ownership.

I would have voted for H.R. 1265, the Bureau Advisory Commission Transparency Act, which requires advisory committees established by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau to adhere to federal ethics and conflict-of-interest laws. Government transparency is essential to holding administration officials accountable, and this bill will help ensure that the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau conducts their crucial work out in the open.

I would have voted for H.R. 1480, the SAFE Act Confidentiality and Privilege Enhancement Act, which would provide confidentiality protections to financial services regulators when they access information in the national mortgage licensing and registry system. This bill will provide financial regulators the confidentiality protections they need to protect consumers and eliminate fraud in the mortgage industry.

I would have voted against H.R. 650, the Preserving Access to Manufactured Housing

Act, which reduces regulatory restrictions on high-cost mortgages in the manufactured housing industry to increase the maximum interest rates manufactured housing vendors can charge. This bill would hamstring Dodd-Frank regulations designed to protect consumers from predatory lending practices in the manufactured housing industry. The bill seeks to reduce the regulatory restrictions on high-cost mortgages in the manufactured housing industry by increasing the maximum interest rates manufactured housing vendors can charge.

I would have voted for H.R. 685, the Mortgage Choice Act of 2015, which seeks to clarify conflicting definitions under current law concerning affiliated and unaffiliated title companies, and could help keep interest rates on mortgage loans affordable.

I would have voted for Rep. VAN HOLLEN's Motion to Instruct Conferees on S. Con. Res. 11, which would instruct conferees to recede to the Senate budget resolution accommodation for legislation to improve workplace benefits, including paid sick leave. The motion would also instruct budget conferees to reject the House-passed budget's provision to turn Medicare into a voucher program. Our seniors depend on Medicare, and I will reject any attempt to end the Medicare guarantee and increase out-of-pocket health costs for seniors.

I would have voted for H.R. 1562, the Contracting and Tax Accountability Act of 2015, and H.R. 1563, the Federal Employee Tax Accountability Act of 2015. H.R. 1562 would generally prohibit individuals and companies with seriously delinquent tax debts from receiving federal contracts and grants, and H.R. 1563 would make individuals with seriously delinquent tax debt ineligible for federal employment if they fail to accept a payment plan within nine months of enactment. Corporations and individuals with serious tax delinquencies should not receive taxpayer-subsidized benefits over those who fulfill their tax obligations.

I would have voted against H.R. 622, the State and Local Sales Tax Deduction Fairness Act, which would permanently allow taxpayers to deduct state and local sales taxes in lieu of state and local income taxes, without offsetting the cost. This bill would increase the deficit by \$42 billion and encourages states to raise taxes, pressuring the federal government to increase taxes to account for the difference. California does not benefit from the state and local sales tax deduction, so this bill would push more of the nation's tax burden onto hardworking taxpayers in my district.

Finally, I would have voted against H.R. 1105, the Death Tax Repeal Act. This bill repeals the federal estate tax, which currently affects only estates valued at \$5.4 million or above (\$10.8 million for couples). This bill would add \$269 billion to the federal deficit, and the entirety of those benefits would go to the wealthiest 0.2 percent of estates. The federal tax code should expand opportunity for everyone, rather than stacking the deck against middle-class families.

A TRIBUTE TO GALE AND MARY
MCKINNEY IN THE FIRST SES-
SION OF THE 114TH CONGRESS

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Gale and Mary McKinney on the very special occasion of their 75th wedding anniversary.

The McKinney's were married at the Little Brown Church in the Vale, in Nashua, Iowa, on April 21, 1940. This wonderful couple continues to be a visible and important part of their community and it is an honor to represent them in the United States Congress.

Gale and Mary's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa's values. I salute this devoted couple on their 75th year together and I wish them many more. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF JOB
CORPS

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, this evening, hundreds of individuals from across the United States will be gathering at the Mellon Auditorium in Washington, D.C. to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of Job Corps.

Originally created by President Lyndon B. Johnson to wage the War on Poverty, the Job Corps program is one of the nation's most successful anti-poverty programs today. Job Corps empowers its participants to become productive members of society by helping them reach their goals, achieve educational aspirations, and learn a trade.

I have seen first-hand the positive impact Job Corps has had on the graduates of Turner Job Corps in my hometown of Albany, Georgia.

There is Marc Scotton of Atlanta, Georgia, who arrived at Turner Job Corps Center not believing in himself and not focused on his schoolwork. After successfully completing the program, he will begin an internship at an Atlanta radio station and plans to study Mass Communications at college.

There is Anna Washington, who first heard of Turner Job Corps through her church. She chose to pursue a certification as a Medical Administrative Assistant. Staying focused, Anna completed her career pathway in six months. A year and a half ago, she became a certified Clinical Medical Administrative Assistant and attended advanced training at the Atlanta Job Corps.

These two stories are but a few of the successes of the Turner Job Corps Center and the Job Corps program in general. Their achievements also are the result of the outstanding staff at these Job Corps Centers.

The young men and women who successfully complete their training at Job Corps Centers across the country receive much more

than a certificate of completion. They gain valuable career and social skills that will serve them well throughout their lives—all in a supportive environment that encourages growth and success.

President Lyndon Johnson once said when describing his War on Poverty—"What we're trying to do—instead of people getting something for nothing, we're going to try to fit them where they can take care of themselves . . . That's our program. We don't want them to get something for nothing. We want to get them where they can carry their own weight."

As the Co-Chairs of the Friends of the Job Corps Congressional Caucus, Congressman CHRISTOPHER GIBSON and I will work with the 79 other members of the Caucus to ensure that it continues to fulfill President Lyndon B. Johnson's goal now and into the future.

A TRIBUTE TO GREGORY "GREG"
REEDER IN THE FIRST SESSION
OF THE 114TH CONGRESS

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Greg Reeder for being named one of the American Public Works Association top ten Public Works Leaders.

For 55 years, the American Public Works Association (APWA) has annually honored ten outstanding public works professionals from the U.S. and Canada as the "Top Ten Public Works Leaders of the Year." The Public Works Leader Award aims to inspire excellence and dedication in public service by recognizing the outstanding career service achievements of individual public works professionals and officials, from either the public or private sector. As the most prestigious national award in the public works profession, the honorees are recognized for their professionalism, expertise and personal dedication to improving the quality of life in their communities through the advancement of public works services.

Mr. Reeder graduated from the University of Nebraska-Omaha with a Bachelor's Degree in engineering and a Master's Degree in Public Administration. He served as the Council Bluffs City Engineer and continues to serve as the Public Works Director.

Mr. Reeder managed the implementation of the mandated separation of the city's combined sanitary and storm systems. He played a major role in the recovery from the 1988 tornado and the 2011 flood events that impacted Council Bluffs. Mr. Reeder instituted an "Infrastructure Management System" which combined street needs and sewer needs in an effort to prioritize infrastructure projects. Under his leadership the city received recognition by the APWA for their "Excellence in Snow and Ice Control Award." He is a frequent continuing education presenter to his fellow civil engineers and he has been published in the 'APWA Reporter'.

Mr. Reeder is an Iowan who has made a difference in the lives of many and for that we are deeply proud. He has dedicated his life to helping and serving others and so it is with great honor that I recognize him today. I know that my colleagues in the House join me in

honoring his accomplishments. I thank him for his service and wish him and his family all the best moving forward.

HONORING LIEUTENANT COLONEL
PETER DANIEL MUENCH

HON. DENNY HECK

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. HECK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Lieutenant Colonel Peter Daniel Muench, United States Army, recipient of the 2015 Hero of Military Medicine Award, for his commitment to our nation's servicemembers and their families. The Hero of Military Medicine Award is presented by the Henry Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of Military Medicine.

Following graduation from the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1998 and Medical School in 2002, LTC Muench married Dr. Dawn Muench and trained as an intern, resident, and Chief Resident in Family Medicine at Tripler Army Medical Center in Honolulu, Hawaii. His first assignment following residency was as the Chief of Flight Medicine at the DiLorenzo TRICARE Health Clinic at the Pentagon in Washington, DC. LTC Muench completed fellowship in Primary Care Sports Medicine at the National Capital Consortium, Washington, DC, in 2009. He deployed as a Battalion Surgeon with 2-87 Infantry in the 10th Mountain Division to Afghanistan in 2006–2007, and with the 28th Combat Support Hospital as the Director of Inpatient Services in Basra, Iraq, in 2010.

LTC Muench served as full-time teaching faculty in the Madigan Army Medical Center Family Medicine Residency at Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM), Washington, as well as the Director of Primary Care Sports Medicine for the Hospital from 2009–2013. From 2012–2013 he was the project officer and Director of the Soldier Peak-Performance and Rehabilitation of the Tactical Athlete (SPARTA) Clinic on JBLM, instituting a cutting-edge approach to injured Soldier care. He currently serves as the Battalion Surgeon for 3rd Battalion, 1st Special Forces Group (Airborne) on JBLM.

In addition to his military contributions, LTC Muench has served as the Team Physician for American University in Washington, DC, the U.S. Army Team Physician for the Wounded Warrior Games, and as a U.S. Olympic Team Physician in Sochi, Russia.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, his friends, family and fellow servicemembers, I commend LTC Muench for his accomplishments.

A TRIBUTE TO EMC INSURANCE IN
THE FIRST SESSION OF THE
114TH CONGRESS

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate a great Iowa company, EMC Insurance. EMC has

been recognized as a Hero for the Homeless by the Central Iowa Shelter and Services.

EMC was founded in Iowa in 1911 and now has more than 2,100 employees; it is considered to be among the top 50 insurance companies in the country. The business has evolved since its original founding and now provides property and casualty insurance products along with other services throughout the United States.

As a company, EMC has dedicated itself to serving those who are less fortunate, working to build a better future for the next generation. Every year Central Iowa Shelter and Services recognizes its "Heroes" who have significantly given time and financial support to address homelessness in Central Iowa. EMC deserves to be commended for their active role reducing the number of homeless in the Central Iowa Community.

I applaud and congratulate EMC for receiving this award and their tireless support for the homeless in Iowa's Third Congressional District. I am proud to represent them in the United States Congress. I know that my colleagues will join me in congratulating EMC Insurance and wishing them well with continued success in the future.

IN RECOGNITION OF COL BRETT
BOLANDER'S CHANGE OF COM-
MAND

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask for the House's attention to recognize Colonel Brett Bolander who will have a change of command from Anniston Army Depot at the end of July.

Colonel Bolander was commissioned as an Ordnance Officer upon graduation from the University of Nebraska at Kearney in 1987 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice. His later education includes the Ordnance Officer Advanced Course; Logistics Executive Development Course; the Florida Institute of Technology, where he earned his Master's Degree in Logistics Management; the Command and General Staff College; and the National War College, where he earned his Master's Degree in National Security and Strategic Studies.

His previous assignments include Platoon Leader, Shop Officer, Battalion S4 and Headquarters Company Commander, 3rd Armored Division, 122nd Main Support Battalion, in Germany, deploying with the division to Operations Desert Shield, Desert Storm and Provide Comfort; Battalion S4 of the 42nd Medical Field Hospital, Deputy Brigade S4, Commander of 156th Maintenance Company, Brigade Inspector General, and later as Chief Assistance Branch, United States Army Armor Center and Fort Knox Inspector General, Fort Knox, KY; Support Operations Officer, 13th Corps Support Command, Fort Hood, Texas; Brigade S4, 101st Forward Support Battalion Support Operations Officer and Battalion Executive Officer, 1st Infantry Division, 1st Brigade Combat Team (Mechanized), Fort Riley, KS; Aide-de-Camp to the Deputy Commanding General and as the Secretary to the General Staff, United States Army Materiel

Command, Fort Belvoir, VA; Commander, 302d Brigade Support Battalion; Operational Readiness Officer, Department of the Army G4 to include a three month deployment to Haiti; Support Operations Officer, Operation Unified Response.

His most recent assignment was Senior Logistics Advisor and Director for Strategic Operations for the Deputy Commander Support Operations, NATO Training Mission-Afghanistan/Combined Security Transition Command-Afghanistan.

Included in his awards and decorations are the Bronze Star Medal, six awards of the Meritorious Service Medal, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal, five awards of the Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal with star, Southwest Asia Service Medal with three stars, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary and Service Medals, Korean Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal with hour glass, Army Service Ribbon, Army Overseas Service Ribbon with 2 device, NATO Training Mission Afghanistan Medal, Kuwait Liberation Medal (Saudi Arabia), Kuwait Liberation Medal (Kuwait), Army Meritorious Unit Commendation and Department of the Army Staff Identification Badge.

Colonel Bolander is married to the former Donna McDonald. They have three children, Jessie, Katherine, and Austin. He led and commanded Anniston Army Depot from August 2012 to July 2015.

The Depot has 4,000 military, civilian and contractor employees with an annual budget of approximately \$750 million.

While at Anniston Army Depot, he safely helped execute millions of direct labor hours while helping overhaul and maintain our nation's critical combat equipment. His hands-on leadership for the workforce helped ensure our nation's military was provided the best possible equipment available to keep them as safe as possible while allowing them to accomplish their vital mission.

Mr. Speaker, we will miss Colonel Bolander in Anniston, but wish him the very best.

A TRIBUTE TO MAYOR FRANK COWNIE IN THE FIRST SESSION OF THE 114TH CONGRESS

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Des Moines Mayor, Frank Cownie. Mayor Cownie has been recognized as a Hero for the Homeless by the Central Iowa Shelter and Services.

Mayor Cownie was first elected Mayor in 2008 and he has been proudly serving the people of Des Moines ever since that day. He has been an advocate for the less fortunate and has worked tirelessly to find new, innovative ways to support those in the Des Moines community who need it the most.

Mayor Cownie has deep ties to Des Moines and has always worked hard to make it the best place to work, live and raise a family. Every year Central Iowa Shelter and Services recognizes its "Heroes" who have significantly

given time and financial support to address homelessness in our communities. Mayor Cownie deserves to be commended for his active role in reducing the number of homeless in the Central Iowa Community.

I applaud and congratulate Mayor Cownie for this award and for providing his tireless support for the homeless in Iowa's Third Congressional District. I am proud to represent him in the United States Congress. I know that my colleagues will join me in congratulating Mayor Cownie and wishing him continued success in the future.

LIFT THE CRUDE OIL BAN

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, new technologies have ushered in an American energy revolution. Last year, the U.S. overtook Russia and Saudi Arabia to become the largest crude oil producer in the world.

We now have more oil than we can refine or store. A majority of U.S. refineries are built to handle heavy, sour crude but new oil production is light, sweet crude. U.S. refiners simply can't keep up with the new production.

Normally producers could simply pump oil into storage containers. But experts say those storage tanks could fill up before the end of this month.

Instead of exporting excess oil like producers get to do in other countries, the ban is already forcing U.S. oil producers to leave oil in the ground and lay off workers.

About 50% of the working rigs in my home state of Texas have had to shut down in the last 6 months. Over 70,000 people have been laid off since Thanksgiving.

The solution to this problem is clear: it is time for the crude oil ban to be lifted.

Critics of lifting the ban are afraid that U.S. oil exports will lead to higher domestic gas prices. Fortunately, many studies have debunked this myth.

Gas prices are more closely linked to the international market—or Brent price—than the domestic price of crude because refined products like gasoline are traded freely on the international market. So the more crude oil we can put on the international market, the lower the international price of crude oil. The lower the international price of crude oil, the lower the price of gas for Americans.

A Rice University study released in March 2015 reviewed previous studies that examined the impact of removing the ban on gas prices. They found that "all studies underscore that lifting the export ban will not translate into higher gasoline prices. In fact, studies generally project gasoline prices in the U.S. will fall once the ban is lifted."

U.S. crude entering the global market will increase the international oil supply and decrease the price of gas.

The only thing the studies do not agree on is just how much gas prices will drop. Savings could range from 1.8 to 12 cents per gallon at the pump.

Lifting the ban will also lead to more jobs and a higher GDP.

An IHS study predicts crude oil exports would support nearly 300,000 jobs by 2018.

Removing the export ban would add \$26 billion to GDP per year and improve labor income by about \$158 per year, on average.

As it improves the U.S. economy, removing the ban will also improve our national security.

The original purpose of the ban put in place back in 1973 was to insulate the United States from the volatility of the international oil market. Ironically, today the ban exposes the U.S. market to volatility. Because our gas prices are tied to the international price of crude, if there is a disruption in the international supply, that directly affects our gas prices. The more crude oil we can put on the market, the more we can minimize those disruptions. Even 1 million barrels of swing capacity matters a lot in the world.

So if ISIS continues to wreak havoc and disrupts oil supply in places like Libya and Iraq, having more U.S. crude oil on the market would help prevent a spike in the price of crude oil and gas prices.

Lifting the ban would also free us up to help our allies more. Europe gets 40% of its oil from Russia. Exporting crude oil would give the Europeans an alternative to having to depend on Russia.

It would also increase our influence in Asia. Japan and South Korea partly rely on crude oil from Iran to satisfy their growing energy consumption. U.S. exports can help diminish that reliance.

Ironically, with the so-called deal with Iran it is now U.S. government policy to allow Iran to export crude oil and inject billions of dollars into their own economy. At the same time it is still U.S. government policy to prohibit U.S. producers from doing the same.

U.S. exports offer a stable source of energy to our allies and decrease their reliance on dictators and state sponsors of terror.

Lifting the ban shows that the U.S. is serious about supporting free market rules around the world. We criticize China for not exporting rare earth minerals and yet here we are not exporting crude oil. Removing the ban will give us more credibility when we criticize other nations' export bans.

All in all, it is high time we remove the crude oil export ban. Exporting U.S. crude will lower gas prices, increase American jobs, and strengthen our national security.

And that's just the way it is.

A TRIBUTE TO BARBARA & MICHAEL GARTNER IN THE FIRST SESSION OF THE 114TH CONGRESS

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Barbara and Michael Gartner. Barbara and Michael have been recognized as Heroes for the Homeless by the Central Iowa Shelter and Services.

Barbara and Michael have spent the last 40 years serving the people of Des Moines, volunteering their time as board members, fundraisers and philanthropists. They have been advocates for the less fortunate and have worked extensively to transform the Des Moines area, making it a better place to live,

work and raise a family. Every year, Central Iowa Shelter and Services recognizes its "Heroes" who have significantly given time and financial support to address homelessness in our communities. Barbara and Michael deserve to be commended for their active role in reducing the number of homeless in the Central Iowa Community.

I applaud and congratulate Barbara and Michael for this award and for providing their tireless support for the homeless in Iowa's Third Congressional District. I am proud to represent them in the United States Congress. I know that my colleagues will join me in congratulating Barbara and Michael; we wish them well with continued success in the future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RAUL RUIZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, due to the birth of my first children—twin baby girls named Sky and Sage—I was unable to be present for votes on the House floor the week of March 23, 2015. Below is an explanation of how I would have voted and why.

I would have voted for H.R. 360, to reauthorize the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 and for other purposes, because it provides housing assistance to Native Americans by allowing tribes to determine their own low-income housing needs, including housing for Native American veterans who are homeless or in danger of becoming homeless.

I would have voted for H. Res. 162, which calls on the President to provide Ukraine with military assistance to defend its sovereignty and territorial integrity, because an independent, democratic and prosperous Ukraine is in the national interest of the United States, and that Russia has engaged in political, economic and military aggression that violates the territorial integrity of Ukraine.

I would have voted for H.R. 216, the Department of Veterans Affairs Budget Planning Reform Act of 2015, which I also supported in the Veterans Affairs Committee. This bill requires the VA to plan ahead, annually submit a five-year budget plan for the agency to meet its commitment to veterans, including the resources necessary to meet those needs, and will assist Congress in holding the VA accountable for its obligation to our veterans.

I would have voted against the Ellison Amendment to H. Con. Res. 27, the Congressional Progressive Caucus substitute budget. While I support some of the provisions of this alternative budget, I oppose raising America's tax burden by \$6.9 trillion over the next decade. This budget would not do enough to reduce the deficit and trim wasteful government spending, and does not reflect the best course for the nation at this time.

I would have also voted against the Butterfield Amendment to H. Con. Res. 27, the Congressional Black Caucus substitute budget. While this alternative also contains many worthwhile measures, I cannot support a budget that adds \$2.7 trillion in new taxes over the next 10 years. My district's priorities dictate a more fiscally responsible approach.

I would have also voted against the Van Hollen Amendment to H. Con. Res. 27, the

Democratic Caucus substitute budget. While I support many of the priorities in this budget, it also increases the deficit and burdens American families with more \$1.8 trillion in additional taxes. This budget does not do enough to trim unnecessary government spending, and is not right for the 36th District at this juncture.

I would have voted against the Stutzman Amendment to H. Con. Res. 27, the Republican Study Committee substitute budget. This extremist, destructive plan would render Medicare unrecognizable from the current, successful program. It would keep seniors from enrolling in Medicare until age 67, and then give them a voucher that would raise their out-of-pocket costs substantially. It would keep seniors from receiving Social Security until age 70, and result in millions of individuals, families, and children losing Health coverage. There is no place in Congress for radical, extremist agendas that distract us from genuine solutions for hardworking Americans, and I would have vehemently rejected this alternative budget.

I would have strongly opposed, spoken on the floor against, and voted against the Price Amendments to H. Con. Res. 27, the House Republican budget resolution. Once again, House Republican Leadership seeks to balance the budget on the backs of middle-class families and seniors, undermine our economic recovery, and end the Medicare guarantee.

This disastrous Republican budget puts an end to Medicare as we know it, turning it into a voucher program that makes health care more expensive and less accessible for seniors. Thousands of seniors in my district rely on Medicare, and this backwards budget proposal threatens the retirement security of seniors living in our desert and across the nation. Our priority should be to strengthen Medicare by reducing health care costs and improving patient outcomes.

Instead, House Republican Leadership has shifted the cost of Medicare to seniors, prioritizing more tax cuts for billionaires and big business. We must work together to protect and preserve Medicare, reduce our deficit, and decrease health care costs. This budget would do the opposite—jeopardizing Medicare and threatening the well-being of our seniors.

In addition, this budget would remove more than 16 million Americans from their health plan, swelling the ranks of the uninsured while callously removing consumer protections for women, young adults, and those with pre-existing conditions. Worse yet, this budget would not even offer economic benefit in return for eviscerating the health care system. In fact, independent studies estimate the Republican budget would grind economic growth to a halt, costing Americans almost 3 million jobs by 2017.

The House Republican budget would end Medicare as we know it, ask seniors and families to pay more for less health coverage, and decimate economic growth for the middle class, all to give huge tax breaks to wealthy corporations. This is not a serious effort to work across party lines for the good of the country, but a reflection of the extreme, upside-down priorities of the House Republican caucus.

Finally, I would have voted for H.R. 2, the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015. This long-overdue legislation abolishes the flawed SGR formula and re-

places it with HR a bipartisan agreement to provide stability for Medicare beneficiaries and providers alike. By providing a reliable, value-based payment system, this bill will protect seniors' access to Medicare and preserve their established relationships with their doctors.

Additionally, this bipartisan bill will extend the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), which provides crucial health coverage for low-income children, extend vital funding for Community Health Centers and other safety net providers, and avoid premium spikes or doctors dropping Medicare patients.

As long as I have been in Congress, I have advocated for a long-term SGR fix for our seniors and physicians. I co-sponsored the bipartisan framework that forms the foundation of this bill, and I have written to House leadership multiple times asking for this solution to be brought to the floor. This bill is a practical solution that will protect and preserve Medicare for our seniors and provide stability and relief for our nation's health care providers, and I am proud to support it.

A TRIBUTE TO DENNIS HOHN IN THE FIRST SESSION OF THE 114TH CONGRESS

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Dennis Hohn for his retirement after many years of service to the Stuart Fire Department in Stuart, Iowa.

For the past 30 years Dennis has served the Stuart Fire Department in a variety of different roles. He has also been active with the Iowa Fire Service Training Bureau as a certified trainer. Dennis was recently honored by Fire Chief, Mike Renslow, for his long history of commitment to the safety of his community. I truly admire his hard work and the service that he has provided to his fellow Iowans.

I know that my colleagues in the United States Congress join me in commending Dennis for his service to the community in Stuart and wishing him the best in his retirement. It is a great honor to represent Iowans like Dennis in Congress and I wish him the best in his future endeavors.

A TRIBUTE TO DENNY WULF IN THE FIRST SESSION OF THE 114TH CONGRESS

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Denny Wulf, Superintendent of Norwalk Community School District. Mr. Wulf has been named the Superintendent of the Year by the School Administrators of Iowa.

Mr. Wulf has been superintendent of the Norwalk district since 2004. He previously served as Middle School principal and began his teaching career in the high school and as a coach. This award is based on the Iowa Standards for School Leaders and focuses on

a shared vision of leadership, safety, efficiency and effective learning by working with parents and the community to provide a presence of fairness, integrity and ethics.

I applaud and congratulate Mr. Wulf for his award and for providing the youth in Iowa's Third Congressional District the education that they will need to be successful in the future. I am proud to represent him, and the entire

Norwalk School District in the United States Congress. I know that my colleagues will join me in congratulating Denny Wulf and wishing him well with continued success in the future.